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By the King. *Not proclaimed*

**A Proclamation against such as wilfully and presumptuously contemne His Maiesties Royall authority, vsed in preuention of the barbarous vse of Duels; particularly against Peter Apſley, Eſquire.**



Hereas, out of Our care to preuent the effuſion of Chriſtian blood, and the vtter perdition both of bodie and ſoule of many of Our Subjects of the better quality, through the vngodly & barbarous Maximes and conſolutions, contrary to the Lawes of God and man, obſtinately embraced by many of Our ſayd Subjects, in the matter of Duels and Quarrels; wee haue principally, in this behalfe, deputed Our Royall authority to Our Right truſtie, and right welbeloued Couſin & Councellour, the Earle Marſhall of England, as moſt properly belonging to his place, by all faire meanes and honourable wayes, in ſuch cauſes accuſtomed, to compoſe and ſettle ſuch differences and Quarrels as dayly doe ariſe, and to preuent ſuch great miſchiefes as doe enſue thereupon.

And that vpon Information giuen of ſome offence committed in that ſubject of Quarrell, by Peter Apſley, Eſquire, Our ſayd Right truſtie & right welbeloued Couſin and Councelloz, the Earle Marſhall of England, did in Our Name ſtraightly charge and command the ſayd Peter Apſley, vpon his duty and Allegiance vnto Vs, not to abſent himſelfe from his lodging, nor to proceed any further in the ſayd offences; And did likewiſe in Our Name receiue his ſaith and promiſe for the ſame, which, next vnto God, hee ought moſt inuiolably to haue maintained vnto Vs: All which notwithstanding, the ſayd Peter Apſley hath ſecretly departed from his Lodging, and doth lurke in places vnknoſſen, to the vtter contempt of Our authority, and to the preuention of all future compoſall of Quarrels and Duels, and auerſion of the great Miſchiefes enſuing thereupon, if the ſame ſhould bee paſſed ouer.

Wee therefore, by the aduice of Our Prime Counſell, haue thought fit by this Our publique Proclamation, to declare Our Royall pleaſure and command, that the ſayd Peter Apſley, doe

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forthwith render himselfe to Our said Right trustie and right welbeloued Cousin and Councellour the Earle Marshall of England, before him further to answer his said offences; To which if he shall not presently yeeld obedience, Wee doe further straitly charge and command all and euery Our Iustices of Peace, Mayors, Sheriffes, and Constables, and other Our Officers, Ministers and louing Subjects, that they all and euery of them doe vse all diligence to apprehend him; and being apprehended, to bring him, the said Peter Apsey, before Our said Right trustie and right welbeloued Cousin and Councellour the Earle Marshall of England, to receiue such condigne punishment as shall bee found fit.

And further Our Command is, that in the meane time none presume to receiue, harbour, or entertaine the said Peter Apsey, vpon paine of Our high displeasure, and such further punishment as shall bee fitting to so high a contempt.

And because many of Our Subjects doe vainely imagine, that the arme of Our Regal power and Justice cannot extend it selfe to the punishment of contempts of this nature, and other crimes by them perpetrated against Us, or any of Our liege people in parts beyond the Seas; Whereas indeede the Jurisdiction, and authoritie of Our Court Marshall, doth as properly embrace the cognisance of such offences, as of those that are committed here at home.

To the end therefore that all others may take warning, Wee doe hereby declare that if the said Peter Apsey be fled beyond the Seas, hee shall stand and bee reputed as a fugitiue, and accordingly be deprived of Our grace and fauour, and of the benefit of Our Lawes, in any Our Courts of Justice, or elsewhere, during his residence there, and vntill hee shall by his returne personally submit himselfe vnto the ordinary course of Justice, vsed in cases of this nature, before Our said Earle Marshall.

And Wee doe further hereby declare Our Will and pleasure to bee, That whosoever hereafter vpon any matter of Quarrell or Challenge, shall haue a charge or command layd vpon him in Our Name, vpon his duety and Allegiance vnto Us, tending to the compounding and suspending of any such Quarrell or challenge by Our Marshall, and shall wilfully breake the sayd charge and command layd vpon him as aforesaid, the partie so offending shall bee held to stand in the same degree of contempt, and in all other respects, as in this present case, and shall accordingly be proceeded against by Proclamation. With seuerer intunctions to all Our Officers and louing Subjects, for the apprehending of him, and prohibition vpon like penalties, not wittingly to receiue him, or to harbour, entertaine, or conceale him, vntill he shall be produced to answer his high contempt before our Earle Marshall for the time being.

Given at Our Court at Oatlands, The ninth day of August, in the seuenth yeere of Our Reigne.

God saue the King.

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Kings most Excellent MAIESTIE: and by the Assignes of  
Iohn Bill. M.DC. XXXI.